

---

Introduced by Senator Pan

January 6, 2015

---

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4—Relative to Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 4, as introduced, Pan. Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

This measure would designate the week of January 11 to January 17, 2015, as Physician Anesthesiologist Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Annually in the United States, more than 100  
2 million operations and procedures are performed with anesthesia  
3 and physician anesthesiologists play a critical role in a patient’s  
4 well-being before, during, and after surgical procedures and make  
5 patient safety their top priority; and  
6 WHEREAS, Physician anesthesiologists have the highest levels  
7 of training and must complete between 12,000 and 16,000 hours  
8 of training prior to practicing independently; and  
9 WHEREAS, Physician anesthesiologists have been leaders in  
10 patient safety and cited as the only medical specialty to have  
11 significantly improved patient safety; and  
12 WHEREAS, A physician anesthesiologist’s duties include  
13 evaluating a patient’s current health prior to receiving anesthesia  
14 to ensure the best outcome, administering anesthesia, monitoring  
15 the patient during surgery, and assessing the patient after the  
16 procedure is completed; and  
17 WHEREAS, This spectrum of patient care constitutes the  
18 perioperative surgical home. The American Society of

1 Anesthesiologists has identified the perioperative surgical home  
2 as an innovative model in patient care where the physician  
3 anesthesiologist directs the anesthesia care team to provide support  
4 to the patient throughout all aspects of surgical care and procedures;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, There is up to a 20 percent reduction in adverse  
7 events when physician anesthesiologists lead the anesthesia care  
8 team; and

9 WHEREAS, The American Medical Association completed a  
10 public opinion survey that concluded 70 percent of patients want  
11 a physician to administer and monitor anesthesia levels; and

12 WHEREAS, Anesthesia is safer than ever before, yet there  
13 remains potential for complications and side effects during  
14 procedures, and physician anesthesiologists have the training and  
15 expertise to help minimize these risks, monitor for any problems,  
16 and take quick action; and

17 WHEREAS, During surgeries or procedures, when seconds  
18 count, physician anesthesiologists have the highest degree of  
19 training to respond to emergencies and ensure the best patient  
20 outcomes; and

21 WHEREAS, The California Society of Anesthesiologists is a  
22 physician organization with over 3,000 members dedicated to  
23 promoting the highest standards of the profession of  
24 anesthesiology, fostering excellence through continuing medical  
25 education, and serving as an advocate for anesthesiologists and  
26 their patients; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
28 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the  
29 week of January 11 to January 17, 2015, inclusive, as Physician  
30 Anesthesiologist Week; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
32 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.